

Does greed give the right for any company to come into my community and negatively change it forever?

My personal and simplest objection is my sleep deprivation. Living within train whistle range of three crossings, Pfeiffer Road, Sauk Trail and Center Road, for thirty-eight years, I wake up each time a train passes through. This impacts my job, social life, health, etc. and that of everyone else who has never gotten "used to it". Heavier and longer trains will have a dramatic impact on people's health as at least once an hour the noise will disrupt sleep, relaxation and anything else they were trying to do increasing blood pressure, anger, and related problems.

It is not just surmised but proven that the impact of one, two, three, and counting, minutes in arriving at the hospital decreases my and your chances of a good outcome for stroke, heart attack and many other medical emergencies. It is not just surmised but proven that these delays will occur on a regular basis if this sale is allowed to take place. Is a large company hungry for bigger profits allowed to come into my community and put me, my neighbors and friends at risk for their lives.

Reports say that property values within 300 feet of the crossings will also be negatively impacted. Well I have news for you. Since I can hear the screaming whistles from three crossings and my neighbors lamps shake when trains approach, I can assure you that property values within one mile will be impacted negatively just on the basis of noise and vibration. Start adding the traffic and safety issues and you will see this is a large problem.

Even a company with a good safety record should not have the opportunity to change so many communities in so many bad ways. Why aren't the positive options available to them being considered?

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